

Legislation Annual Report Survey - 2017

Introduction

Thank you for participating in the new annual report survey. As parish legislation standing committee chairpersons, your input adds value to our diocesan, provincial and national perspectives.

The survey is very comprehensive and broken into each sub-heading. Please do not feel daunted by the length of it. There are many options, but we understand that councils will focus on just a few of the priorities listed. It is perfectly okay to leave questions unanswered if your council has not pursued a certain topic. Thank you for completing this annual survey. Your input will give us a clearer picture of what councils are doing and what members are interested in across Canada.

Your voice is important to the future of the League.

Nancy Simms, National Chairperson of Legislation

1. Is this position vacant? *

- Yes No

2. Are you completing this survey on someone else's behalf? *

- Yes No

3. On whose behalf are you completing this survey for? Please enter the name of the chairperson. *

Monitor and Study Legislation at All Levels of Government

Legislation affects everyone and everything we have and do.

4. Do you know the names of your local, provincial and federal government representatives?*

Yes No

Municipal

Provincial

Federal

5. Do you receive mailings from these representatives?*

Yes No

Municipal

Provincial

Federal

6. Have you attended public forums sponsored by governments at any level and brought information back to your council?*

Yes

No

7. Please describe the topic of the forum.

8. How would you rate your knowledge of the issues being discussed by government at all levels?*

Extremely well informed Well informed Somewhat informed Not informed

Municipal

Provincial

Federal

9. Please describe your council's level of awareness of the following federal bills from the 42nd Parliament, 1st Session that were monitored nationally.*

	Shared issue with council	Read up on it	Not aware of it
Bill C-11 An Act to amend the Copyright Act (access to copyrighted works or other subject-matter for persons with perceptual disabilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-37 An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act and to make related amendments to other acts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-211 Federal Framework on Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-214 An Act to Amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (appeals)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-216 National Perinatal Bereavement Awareness Day Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-226 Impaired Driving Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-233 National Strategy for Alzheimer's Disease and other Dementias Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-243 National Maternity Assistance Program Strategy Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-254 An Act to Amend the Excise Tax Act (baby products)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-255 An Act to Amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (appeal process and for temporary resident visa applicants)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-257 Amend the Food and Drugs Act (sugar content labelling)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-277 Framework on Palliative Care in Canada Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-262 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-316 An Act to amend the Canada Revenue Agency Act (organ donors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-321 An Act to amend the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (prohibition of asbestos)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-324 An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (production of or trafficking in substances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-326 An Act to amend the Department of Health Act (drinking water guidelines)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-329 An Act to amend the Canadian Environmental Act, 1999 (asbestos)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-332 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Reporting Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill C-336 Right to Know Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill S-5 An Act to amend the Tobacco Act and the Non-smokers' Health Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bill S-225 An Act to Amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act
(substances used in the production of fentanyl) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bill S-228 Child Health Protection Act | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are there any other federal bills that your council has monitored and acted upon? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

10. In June 2017 National Chairperson of Legislation Nancy Simms presented a petition with over 32,000 signatures to Member of Parliament Cathy McLeod (Kamloops–Thompson–Cariboo) that urged the federal government to "specifically identify hospice palliative care as a defined medical service covered under the Canada Health Act so that provincial and territorial governments will be entitled to funds under the Canada Health Transfer system to be used to provide accessible and available hospice palliative care for all residents of Canada in their respective provinces and territories." Did your council circulate and participate in this petition?*

- Yes No

11. At the 97th annual national convention, national council adopted Resolution 2017.03 Zero-Rated Status Under the Goods and Services Tax Provisions of the Excise Tax Act for Child Safety Products. Please check any actions taken by your council in response to the action plan.*

- Write letters to the federal government requesting the removal of the federal portion of tax from child safety products.
- Invite a guest speaker to educate members on the requirements of child safety products.
- Hold a fundraiser for a local young mothers group to purchase safety products for those in need.
- Study the list of products in the Canada Safety Act and ascertain if any other products should be listed as well.
- Educate the public on if your province has a provincial rebate for child safety products.
- Continue to monitor this issue.
- Other, please specify... _____
- Our council has not acted on this resolution at this time.

12. At the 97th annual national convention, national council adopted Resolution 2017.04 Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals. Please check any actions taken by your council in response to the action plan.*

- Write letters to the prime minister and attorney general with copies to your local member of parliament urging them to make it an offence under the Criminal Code for healthcare professionals to be coerced into performing or referring patients for procedures that are in opposition to their conscience.
- Educate members and the community on the importance of healthcare professionals' right of conscience.
- Find ways to support healthcare workers who will not perform procedures that are in opposition to their conscience.
- Other, please specify... _____
- Our council has not acted on this resolution at this time.

13. On behalf of the 938 registered attendees at the 97th annual national convention, National President Margaret Ann Jacobs wrote to the prime minister to express the League's deep concern about the passage of Bill C-16 An Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Criminal Code. The Criminal Code now extends protection to members or groups distinguished by gender identity or expression from hate crimes, causing a fear within the Catholic community that its disagreement on gender theory will be cause for repression of the Catholic viewpoint in the public sphere. Please check any actions taken by your council to speak out on this Catholic teaching and the right of Catholics to freedom of expression and religion.*

- Write letters to the prime minister and attorney general with copies to your local member of parliament urging them provide assurances that the Catholic viewpoint will not be viewed as hate against those living with gender dysphoria.
- Educate members and the community on the issue.
- Other, please specify... _____
- Our council has not acted on this issue at this time.

14. At the 96th annual national convention, national council adopted Resolution 2016.04 Amend the Canada Health Act to Identify Palliative Care as an Insured Health Service. Please check any actions taken by your council in response to the action plan.*

- Write to the prime minister and federal minister of health urging them to identify palliative care as an insured health service covered under the Canada Health Act, and to develop a national strategy for uniform standards and delivery of palliative care as defined by the World Health Organization.
- Educate members and the community at large on the importance of high quality palliative care.
- Monitor federal government's response to the request of this resolution.
- Other, please specify... _____
- Our council has not acted on this resolution at this time.

15. At the 96th annual national convention, national council also adopted Resolution 2016.05 Amend the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service. Please check any actions taken by your council in response to the action plan.*

- Write to the prime minister and federal minister of health urging them to include home in the Canada Health Act.
- Initiate a petition among members requesting that governments include home care in the Canada Health Act.
- As a council, study the Parliamentary Committee on Palliative and Compassionate Care report "Not to be Forgotten, Care of Vulnerable Canadian" as well as publications from Catholic Organization for Life and Family that deal with vulnerable people (e.g. "Families, Christ Calls us to sow joy and hope!").
- As a council support local hospices financially as well as volunteering.
- As a council co-ordinate assistance to disabled and elderly (housework, cooking, appointments, shopping, etc.) – these were separated into multiple options, should be one.
- Invite speakers to a meeting that will educate members on home care services that are available in the community.
- Monitor the federal government's response to the request contained in the resolution.
- Sign petition e-673.
- Other, please specify... _____
- Our council has not acted on this resolution at this time.

16. Is there provincial legislation that you have been monitoring closely? If so, please list the title(s) of the bill.

17. Have you accessed Hansard, the printed record of the proceedings of the federal government?*

- Yes No

Summary and Final Thoughts

18. Thank you for taking the time to respond to this survey. Is there anything else you would like to share about your council's legislation activities?

19. Do you have future goals your council would like to aspire to regarding legislation?

20. Do you have any suggestions on how diocesan, provincial and national levels can serve you better?